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## Self-Government Talks Stalled

by Ryan Edwards

A proposal on Native self-government was stalled earlier this month, after Assembly of First Nations Chief Ovide Mercredi said he did not have the mandate to agree to self-government without a constitutional amendment.

The proposal had been put forth at a meeting held in Toronto to discuss how to implement self-government. Government ministers from the provinces and territories, plus the other Native groups present, were ready to proceed with a plan put forth by Christos Sirros, Quebec's new minister responsible for Native affairs.

The lead-up to the meeting began in the latter part of January, when federal Indian Affairs Minister Ron Irwin announced that the government would have plans for Native self-government in place within six months.

Irwin said that the federal government is acting on the premise that provisions for Native self-government are already included in the Canadian Constitution. Irwin said that during the six-month period, the government would consult with Natives, and the provincial and

territorial governments. According to Irwin, self-government would not involve sovereign Native states in Canada.

Prime Minister Jean Chretien, who has said he will not reopen constitutional discussions, also maintains that a constitutional amendment is not necessary in order to implement self-government.

AFN Chief Mercredi had been in Mexico, with a human rights delegation, when Irwin made his initial announcement. After returning to Canada, Mercredi said that the AFN had not been consulted about the government's plans. He was quoted by Southam News as saying that "While we welcome the eagerness of the minister to implement ... the inherent right, I think things like that have to be worked out jointly."

Mercredi wants Native self-government written into the Constitution because he is concerned that the right to self-government is only implied in the Constitution, and may not be upheld in court. He was quoted by the Canadian Press as saying that "We want certainty."

## Treaty Chiefs Concerned by Self-Gov't. Announcement

by Brian Savage

"The treaty First Nations and the federal government should be involved in (self-government) negotiation and nobody else," declared Beaver Lake First Nation chief Al Lameman, spokesman for the Confederacy of Treaty Six First Nations, at a recent news conference.

"We have a treaty and that's the way it's set out," said the chief. (Indian Affairs minister Ron Irwin) seems to want to include everybody along the way."

The concern is centred on a recent announcement by the federal government which says Native self-government is already contained in the constitution and that talks will begin this year with bands on that issue.

"If it comes from within the constitution it's a threat to the treaty," says Chief Lameman, "because the treaty itself is outside the constitution, that's why we call it an international document signed by two sovereign nations."

Chief Lameman says the call for involvement



with the provinces is the "underlying factor" of the Confederacy's concern. "They (the federal government) can't think beyond the Canadian borders and we look at it from the international perspective."

The chief is fearful that the federal government plans a form of municipal, or secondary, form of government for Natives. "The proof of that is the Sechelt Band," says Chief Lameman. "That's the kind of government they're talking about. It's just another level of government under the Canadian government."

Such a viewpoint is unacceptable for the Confederacy which withdrew its participation in the Assembly of First Nations years ago as it set out to follow its own path.

Though many Natives are concerned, says Lameman, many of the Native organizations across the country "are being dragged down" as vehicles of expression. Ovide Mercredi, national chief of the AFN, "has been trained within the Canadian system, so naturally he will think

Continued on Page 3

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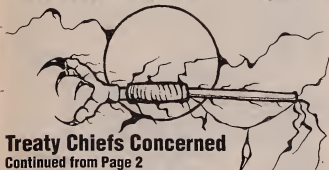


# New Association Represents Bill C-31 Indians in Alberta

A new organization has been launched to represent the interests of Bill C-31 Indians in Alberta.

The Bill C-31 Association of Alberta will seek land and self-government for its members — Indians who have regained their Status under Bill C-31 — who have not received full benefit of their restored rights, says Russell White, who was selected as grand chief of the association at its founding meeting in December.

Because the strength of the organization is a "numbers game", the first



## Treaty Chiefs Concerned

Continued from Page 2

within the Canadian system," said Lameman.

All of this comes after a meeting in Toronto between federal and provincial Native affairs ministers and representatives of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples.

The topic was Native self-government but strong differences of opinion on the inherent right of self-government existing in the Canadian constitution and source funding for such an initiative saw any hopes for a quick agreement fade away.

It was the first meeting between the new Indian Affairs minister and his provincial counterparts. In his first press conference Irwin gave journalists a history lesson on the oppression of Native legal rights that continued into the 1960s when Natives finally acquired the right to vote.

"I thought the Conservatives had it all wrong," Irwin was quoted in the *Globe and Mail*. "What we're doing today is exactly what I thought we should have been doing years ago. We're acting on the premise that it's there (inherent right to self-government) in Section 35, until some court says it's not. I see this as remedying what should have been done decades ago."

However, the 17 Chiefs of the Confederacy of Treaty Six First Nations who lobbied successfully for British government participation in Treaty rights discussions last year, remain committed to their concept of a "treaty based bilateral process". They uphold the position that "these bilateral discussions must take place and deal with rights definitions directly with the Federal Government before any involvement by the provincial governments."

task of the association is a membership drive throughout the province, White says. He estimates there are 25,000 to 35,000 C-31 Indians living in Alberta.

White says that with the renewed discussions on Native self-government the timing couldn't be better for C-31 Indians to come together to seek their rights. "This is a golden opportunity for Bill C-31 Indians," he notes.

White emphasizes that his association is concerned with gaining new resources for its members, but not at the expense of other Aboriginal people.

"Given the resources to which we are entitled as Status Indians, Bill C-31 Indians can become self-sufficient, contributing members of society rather than dependent on it," White says.

His association is seeking the same benefits available to members of Indian bands.

Strategies are being developed to pursue self-government and assume delivery of services to their own people; to acquire new lands and reserves; to pursue economic development opportunities, and to develop cultural, educational, recreational and social services for members.

The organizational structure of the association is based on traditional Indian models, with a bottom-up hierarchy in which direction is provided by the people, and decisions reached by consensus.

The interim council guiding the association meets monthly to develop the association, with an assembly of all members planned for this summer at which every member will have a full opportunity to guide and assist in its future activities.

White also plans to hold meetings throughout Alberta to update members and potential members and to learn their concerns and seek their guidance.



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## Austrian Parliament Supports Lubicon

by Dale Stelter

Last month, the Austrian Parliament unanimously passed a resolution in support of the Lubicon Cree of northern Alberta.

The Lubicon have been trying to get a settlement of their land rights dispute for approximately 55 years. The Austrian Parliament's resolution adds to the already significant international support that the Lubicon have gained.

The resolution, passed on January 20th, states that:

"The Austrian Government is asked — in considering international customs in dealing with befriended countries — to use its influence with the Canadian authorities, that negotiations between the Lubicon Cree Indians and the Canadian Federal Government may quickly lead to a mutually satisfactory settlement concerning the land claim, the resources and compensation payment."

The Association for Endangered Peoples — Austria, a human rights organization for indigenous peoples, stated that the Canadian government had tried to intervene via the Canadian Embassy in Vienna. Material supplied by the Lubicon states that those efforts included distribution of "deliberately deceitful anti-Lubicon" materials prepared by both the Canadian federal government and the Alberta provincial government.

Lubicon band adviser Fred Lennarson added that the Austrian Parliament's unanimous support for the resolution demonstrates how little credibility the Canadian government has on the Lubicon issue.

The debate that took place in the Austrian Parliament shows the breadth of the support for the Lubicon. Austrian Liberal Party member Klara

Motter said that she would have liked to have seen the resolution go further and to have taken the position "that the economic activities of the oil and pulp industry in the traditional territory of the Lubicon Cree should be forbidden as long as no agreement has been reached with these Aboriginal people."

A Social Democrat member ended the debate by stating that "the resolution... concerning the Lubicon Cree Indians led to hectic activities by the Canadian Embassy." He concluded by saying that the Lubicon need special support "to survive as a small people."

Earlier in the discussion, Green Party Member Marijana Grandits had described the Lubicon as a symbol in the fight for preservation of the planet and the need for global responsibility.

In related news, Canadian Indian Affairs Minister Ron Irwin was unable to meet with Lubicon Chief Bernard Ominayak on January 21st, as originally scheduled, and the meeting has been postponed until February 18th. The meeting will take place at the Lubicon community of Little Buffalo Lake, as originally planned.



## TALLCREE SETTLEMENT REACHED

The government obligation to the Tallcree First Nation will now be met with their recent settlement with both the federal and provincial governments. The land claim was in regard to the Tallcree First Nation's claim to a remaining land entitlement under Treaty No. 8.

Under the terms of the settlement, the Tallcree First Nation will receive 5,261 hectares (13,000 acres) of additional reserve land and \$7 million. The government of Canada is contributing \$5.5 million toward the settlement and the province has agreed to provide the land and \$1.5 million.

Although reserves were set aside for the Tallcree First Nation in 1912 and 1915, the First Nation did not receive the full amount of land to which it was entitled under Treaty No. 8.

"This settlement is important to the members of the Tallcree First Nation," said Tallcree First Nation Chief Bernard Meneen. "It recognizes the debt which has been owing to our elders and members since the signing of the Treaty. We are committed to using the land and resources from the settlement to build a better future for our people in their name."

All parties paid tribute to the positive role of the Tallcree elders throughout the negotiations leading to the settlement.

The Tallcree reserves are located in the Fort Vermilion area, approximately 600 kilometres north of Edmonton.

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**REFERENDUM:** this approval procedure by tribal members will be conducted by voting and mail-in ballot (secret ballot).

**REQUIREMENTS:** 1. All tribal members who are over the age of 18 are entitled to vote and must be registered in order to vote.  
2. Prior to disbursement of a ballot form (for those living away from the community), tribal members are required to submit a copy of their signed registration form and a copy of identification with a signature (e.g. SIN, valid Drivers Licence, Treaty ID)

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# Opaskwayang Cree Nations win big in Manitoba court

by John Copley

The Opaskwayang Cree Nations, formerly the La Pas Band of Manitoba, is an elated group of 3,000 smiling faces today.

After a prolonged five-year legal battle in an effort to gain recognition for federal tax exemption, a three-day court case and a speedy (two weeks) decision by Judge D.G. Bowman has finally given relief to the residents of Manitoba's third largest reserve.

General Manager of the band, Jim Smith, says the decision was based on the fact that "we have businesses and corporations whose sole purpose is to provide a better life to those who belong to the reserve."

Citing water and sewer, policing, public works and education as some of the areas where the band remains autonomous and receives no outside funding, Smith says the decision, though a long time coming, is a fair one.

"Any revenues we generate go to improving the services and quality of life for the citizens here," he says.

In fact, over the next five years, between six and eight million dollars will be spent to improve the current infra-structure. This amount includes a full replacement of the water and sewage system in the old town site. The current system is more than 20 years old and "is in great need of being replaced."

Glen Ross, Director of the Pasquat Business Development Corporation (PBDC), says that though the costs of the battle were heavy (over \$60,000) the rewards are even greater.

"We were assessed and told we owed between \$300 and \$400 thousand in taxes," explains Ross. "So the win is a big relief because there is no way we have that kind of money" lying around.

But winning the case does have its drawbacks, says Ross. "There are many area residents who do not fully comprehend the situation... There are some who say that we have unfair advantage. This, of course, is not true."

Education of the public is the next step, he adds.



"The public is ill informed on Native issues," states the development corporation's CEO. "In fact, even in government one hand doesn't always know what the other one is doing — especially when it comes to decisions that affect Aboriginal peoples."

To demonstrate the point Ross says that even though the band had a letter from the "federal finance department that praised our system and said that we were leaders in economic development," that very same department is the one that pursued a different line "when it came time to challenge our claim in court."

According to Ross using the municipal govern-

ment system as an example of how the band was run has some people confused. That illustration showed that tax exemptions were the proper route for government bureaucrats to consider, he explains but "It's not a municipality status that we were seeking — simply tax breaks. After all, we do our own policing, have our own municipal

Continued on Page 27

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# Aboriginal Role Models to be Honoured

by Morris Ennis

The issue of self-esteem among Native youth is a persistent one, and the need for positive role models has never been stronger. On March 3, 1994, the CBC will broadcast the *National Aboriginal Achievement Awards*. Successful Natives from across Canada will be recognized for their achievements, and held up as positive role models. The recipients were announced on February 2 and the award presentation will be taped for the March broadcast.

Individuals honoured at the ceremony were chosen by the Canadian Arts Foundation, and funding for the event was made possible by corporate donations. John Kim Bell, of the Mohawk Nation, is promoting the ceremony, and says the purpose of the event is to undermine negative stereotypes that Native youth often believe to be true of their own people. According to Bell who is quoted in the *Winnipeg Free Press* "The Oka crisis created a psychological image of who we are, and then there's alcoholism and Davis Inlet." He added that not only mainstream culture creates obstacles, but Native people often view successful Natives as denying their roots.

Bell told the media that "Traditionally, communities are not supportive... parents often do not want their children to have a better life than they do. There is a generational jealousy and pain." The fear of assimilation runs parallel with the fear of losing culture and tradition, but Bell doesn't buy that argument. He feels that Natives can become successful without losing their identity, and that Natives and non-Natives alike should be made aware of Native success stories.

Gina Whiteduck, Assembly of First Nations health commission director agrees. She is quoted as saying "What we are trying to demonstrate in these opportunities are a deterrent to alcoholism and those types of lifestyles—it's part of the healing that needs to be done."

Positive role models, however, do not necessarily have to be the famous and fortunate. When students at Children of the Earth High School in Winnipeg were asked who their role models were, most pointed to family members—parents, brothers and sisters.

One young man stated: "My brother. He made it through jail and he's still alive." And another young woman said: "My dad. He started off living in a car and now he owns his own house and he's going to university full time, in law." The school emphasizes role models to show that success is well within reach, and that poverty and despair is not their destiny.

Bell feels that an emphasis must be placed on positive training experiences for youth to help them realize that "they can be successful and Aboriginal when they grow up. I think the National Aboriginal Awards will prove that."

"You're going to see maybe 50 people on television who are Aboriginal, Inuit and Metis from all across the country who are doctors, in health promotions, social services, in business, sports, in the arts," he told the media, adding "And they're successful."

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## Award Recipients Announced

"Today our ancestors smile" declared John Kim Bell founder of the National Aboriginal Achievement Awards which will be aired on CBC television on March 3.

He announced the first 12 recipients of the awards at a recent news conference, saying that "today is certainly a breakthrough, not only for Aboriginal people but for the rest of Canada as well."

The award recipients are:

- Murray Sinclair, an Ojibway and Manitoba associate chief judge;
- Inuit political leader Rosemarie Kuptana;
- Inuit singer Susan Aglukark;
- Nellie Cournoyea, leader of the Northwest Territories government;
- Thelma Chalfoux, a Metis housing and social-service specialist;
- Jean Cuthand Goodwill, a Cree health professional;
- Cindy Kenny-Gilday, a Dene environmental consultant;
- Cree teacher Verna Kirkness;
- Inuit businessman William Lyall;
- Ted Nolan, an Ojibway hockey coach;
- Alanis Obomsawin, a Motagnaise film-maker;
- Art Solomon, a traditional Ojibwa teacher and elder.

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# U.S. Report Criticizes Aspects of Canada's Human Rights Record

by Ryan Edwards

A report released early this month by the United States government is critical of some aspects of Canada's human rights record.

The report, which is released annually by the U.S. State Department and deals with human rights around the world, generally gives high marks to Canada, but according to Southern News criticizes Canada in areas such as the following:

- Canada's treatment of Native peoples was called "the most important human rights issue" in the country. There is under-representation of Natives in the work force, and Natives earn less than the average. As well, 42 percent of the Natives who live on reserves are dependent on welfare.

- Canadian peacekeepers are taken to task over the death of two Somalis in Belet Huen, on March 4th and 16th of last year. The deaths are called "extra-judicial killings", but the report points out that Canada has launched a full investigation and judicial proceedings. A total of eight soldiers are facing court martial on a variety of charges stemming from the deaths.

On a global scale, the report includes documentation of both significant advances and setbacks



in terms of human rights. The advance toward reconciliation between blacks and whites in South Africa is applauded, as is the peace process in the Middle East.

The report sees the continuing conflict in the former Yugoslavia as the biggest setback, saying that all nationalities were victimized in 1993 as in 1992.

## Littlechild Declines Position With Mexico Peace Delegation

by Ryan Edwards

Willie Littlechild, the former Member of Parliament for Westaskiwin, declined a position on an international peace delegation to the Mexican region of Chiapas. Indian rebels in the area began an uprising in early January, in a struggle for Indigenous rights.

Rigoberta Menchu, the Indian activist who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1992, had been asked on January 17th to assemble a delegation of 11 Indigenous people from around the world. The delegation, sponsored by the United Nations, would then travel to Chiapas and try to establish peace in the area, and investigate violations of human rights by both sides in-

volved in the conflict.

Littlechild was contacted on January 18th, but after discussions with his family, decided to put his family first. He also told the *Westaskiwin Times Advertiser* that "At the time they called me it was just too short-notice."

Menchu had referred in a press release to Littlechild's UN involvement on the behalf of Indigenous people. Littlechild has maintained his involvement with the UN since retiring from politics, mainly as legal counsel for the Four Nations of Hobbema.

Littlechild added that if the delegation definitely needs him later on, there is a possibility that he could join at that time.



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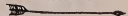
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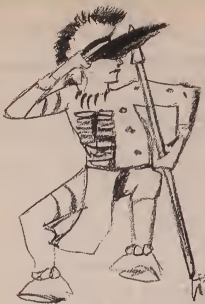
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## NEWS BRIEFS



### Signs of New Hydro Policy in Quebec

Natives and environmentalists are pleased over signs that the Quebec government appears to be rethinking its plans for multi-billion dollar hydro projects.

According to the Canadian Press, Chrisros Sirros, the province's new energy minister, said that he favours the creation of an independent agency to review Hydro-Quebec's development plans, and that he wants a debate on energy alternatives to hydro-electricity. Sirros was quoted as saying that he does not have "an ideological commitment to mega-projects."

Hydro-Quebec is the provincial utility which is proposing the massive Great Whale hydro-electricity project, to which the Quebec Cree and environmental groups around the world are opposed.

### Roads to Saskatchewan Power Station Blocked

An Aboriginal coalition recently set up blockades on two roads leading to a Saskatchewan hydro station, to protest hiring practices at the facility. The Island Falls station, operated by SaskPower, is near the village of Sandy Bay, 500 kilometres northeast of Prince Albert.

The protest is being staged by the Sandy Bay Aboriginal Committee, which is comprised of two Indian bands, the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan, and the village.

According to *The StarPhoenix* of Saskatoon, the committee claims that employment of Aboriginal people at the station is steadily declining. The committee wants to negotiate an employment and training agreement with SaskPower, and wants more money from a fund set up by SaskPower for economic development projects and scholarships.

### Controversy Surrounds Military Helicopter at Kanesatake

There is disagreement over the reason why a federal Defence Department helicopter landed on the Kanesatake reserve in Quebec.

Colonel Lloyd Campbell of the Defence Department told the media that the helicopter had been searching for the source of an electronic distress signal, coming from a small private plane which had made an emergency landing on a secondary road near the town of Oka, located near Kanesatake.

Campbell said that the helicopter flew over the area from which the signal originated, but did not see any evidence of a crash. The helicopter landed in a field near Oka, and was approached by a group of Natives. The Canadian Press reports that Campbell said the leader of the group told the helicopter crew that they had been fired at and that they should immediately leave. Campbell said there was no damage to the helicopter.

Jerry Peltier, chief of the Kanesatake Mohawks, said that he did not believe the explanation given by the Defence Department. In an interview with *CBC Newsworld*, Peltier said that "Until we have more proof that this signal went out, we suspect there was some kind of military manoeuvre."

Peltier said that the Defence Department should have notified the community in advance about the helicopter's mission.

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# Viewpoint



*Sty's Pen*



## Wearing the Feather Proudly

by Del Sty

Back in the 1930's there was a sizable spiritualist movement in England and part of this movement found inspiration in North American Native spiritualism. The main medium was the pamphlet. My sister brought one of these old 1930's pamphlets back from a trip to London, the title of which was "The teachings of Silver Birch," which she gave to me.

It was meditative little reading book, about 75 pages. Silver Birch was supposed to be a spirit whose words were spoken by the author. Conversations arising out of questions and answers were recorded into about 15 or 20 short chapters. A chapter could provide an hour's meditation, and Silver's Birch's meditations could be repeated many times. And over the course of two years I found myself reading the teachings of Silver Birch for the purpose of meditating on truth.

At about the same time, I moved to Regina, Saskatchewan for a job and in a short time I discovered I was in a very special place. I found myself in the very centre of North American Indian nationhood. By sheer demographics followed closely by an impervious national will the Indians of south Saskatchewan have a huge stake in what's going on in Saskatchewan.

I was soon making friends and discussing my views. I had a lot to learn. I took this learning seriously. Eventually I learned that while Silver Birch's ideas were comforting and worthwhile, they do not reveal the mystery of Aboriginal beliefs.

Life is rough and tumble on most Saskatchewan reserves. But the most



important thing I learned is that there is a deep truth in the traditional beliefs of the Cree on the plains.

If Indian kids in southern Saskatchewan have to grow up fast, the fact remains that they are raised with traditional beliefs and values. Furthermore those people providing leadership in southern Saskatchewan are more than preservers and survivors. They are true believers who wear the goose feather proudly beside the others who watch hungrily for something to eat (for the crow has a healthy appetite).

The culture seemed to be dying at one time. It came to pass that everything turned against Indians' chances of survival back a hundred years or more. Medicine men, elders, advocates, mothers, sisters and brothers — entire villages became the departed — taking leave of the tribes and taking too much culture and tradition with them. The amazing fact of the Bands in southern Saskatchewan is that they survived at all.

Nevertheless there is a mystical tradition, illusive of description, that inspires these Bands in their actions and activities of today. Silver Birch may have been a fraud. But somehow I don't think so. Somehow those teachings launched me on a journey of learning that led me to an understanding that not many white men share. And the learning continues.

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# Saluting Aboriginal Entrepreneurs

## Development Corporation much more than Money Lender

by John Copley



The Lesser Slave Lake Business Development Corporation (LSLBDC) was first established in 1986.

The federally funded project was originally slated to operate for a five-year term but necessity as well as some light at the end of the tunnel has given new life and perhaps added

another five years to the project.

The corporation was designed to act as a financial liaison between the entrepreneur and various banking institutions. It also operates the Community Ventures Project providing small to medium size loans to worthwhile business ventures.

New management has triggered the renewed hope, says (Wabasca/Desmarais) Bigstone Cree Band Chief Gordon Auger, "we now have a new starting point and we are taking part. It is very satisfying for Native people to be a part of growth."

Last October the LSBDC was totally reorganized and a new team of board members as well as a new executive staff took the reins and set new goals for the area (ID's 124, 125, 126) they serve.

The new staff of four is led by Executive Director, Doug Piquette, a 33-year-old graduate of the University of Victoria and holder of an economic development certificate from Kitchener, Ontario's Waterloo University. Other staff members include a secretary, a loans administrator and a field analyst.

Four of the nine board members are of Native ancestry and both Piquette and Auger say this has made a significant difference in community response.

"We're very happy to say that 48 percent of our clients are Native entrepreneurs," says Piquette.

"Where once there was a lack of communication," notes Chief Auger, one of the board members, "we now have direct contact with Native clients and progress is evident."

Doug Piquette attributes much of the recent

success to the work of his staff, the co-operation and good will of the board and the up-to-date ideals of the various community services offered via the corporation.

Helping clients to develop their business profiles and assisting them in the preparation and operation of the financial aspects of business is only a beginning.

"It's a real learning process," explains Piquette. "There are many small details that must be worked out in any business venture and we try to provide as well as show our clients the best way of achieving their goals."

According to Auger this learning process is vital if Native people are to succeed in business.

"We now feel that we are a part of things," Chief Auger adds, "and that the future need not be bleak if we work together for a common goal."

Three Metis settlements, eight Indian bands, two towns and a village help to make up the area

*Continued on Page 32*



Doug Piquette

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# Focus on SASKATCHEWAN

by Derek McColl

## FSIN Conference Draws Wide Interest

A Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN) conference in Saskatoon January 18 - 20 on economic development featured representatives from government agencies as well as business and financial sectors of the national economy. Among the sponsors of the conference were Industry and Science Canada, The Saskatchewan Economic Development Board, the Toronto Dominion Bank, and the FSIN and its institutions. Delegates from every major bank in the country were in attendance.

The mandate of the FSIN, which was founded in 1960, is "to ensure and protect treaty rights. The promotion, protection and enhancement of treaty rights is what we're working towards," says Shiela Musqua, Executive Assistant to the third Vice-Chief of the FSIN, adding that treaties are fundamentally economic agreements. In this light economic development falls within their mandate of protecting treaty rights.

Among the institutions of the FSIN are the National Indian Financial Corporation and the Saskatchewan Indian Loan Company, which together address the economic needs of Saskatchewan Indians. The theme of the January conference — "building on an economic base" — was meant to engender interest on every level of investment, to "get as many Indian people involved in business as possible by letting them know where to go for funding, where to go for help," says Musqua. This objective was reached through a trade show open to any Aboriginal-owned business or institution, as well as through holding a series of presentations and workshops. Investment opportunities were discussed in relation to the various sectors of the Saskatchewan economy — tourism, mining, forestry, and agriculture — as well as tax planning, strategic investment and treaty land entitlement.

## Urban Reserve Approaching Agreement

The Muskeg Lake Band, which owns property and land in the city of Saskatoon, is fast approaching an agreement with the city on establishing an urban reserve, says Mayor Henry Dayday. "I think it's important for towns and cities to think of urban reserves in positive terms," he told the media. "They bring in new money, new development, and create opportunities for Native people living in the city."

Theresa Dust, Saskatoon city solicitor and member of the task force set up last year by the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA) and the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN) to draft a report on the issue of urban reserves, is quoted in the *Star Phoenix* as saying "They are the local governments on their land, just as municipal councils are the local government on urban lands." She further states that First Nations people want to co-operate with municipalities not only in establishing agreements, but in negotiating the logistics of compatible bylaws, services and so forth once agreements are reached.

A \$445 million treaty land entitlement deal, signed by the federal and provincial governments and 27 Saskatchewan bands, states that municipalities are to negotiate "in good faith" with local bands, although few details were provided on how both sides should proceed with negotiations. Dust is, however, certain of one thing: cities and towns must accept Indian bands as equal partners in negotiations regarding the establishment of urban reserves.



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# Montreal Lake Development Corporation

by Brian Savage

The Montreal Lake Development Corporation is a 13-year-old success story based on careful planning and hard work.

Alberta Native News interviewed Brian Phaneuf, general manager of the Development Corporation, who talked about the background of the corporation, its present successes and its future.

"Our goals are basically to promote and develop projects for the band," says Phaneuf.

"There are a group of companies that exist under the development corporation: they are Montreal Lake Construction, general contractors in the building field, Montreal Lake Electric Ltd., electrical contractors, and Montreal Lake Enterprises, a forestry management and logging operation."

The Development Corporation also manages residential and commercial property owned by the band, including 100 residential units, and commercial property that includes a strip mall, an office building and a service station-restaurant.

The different businesses provide employment for many in the band. The construction company employs 12 full-time and 15 seasonal workers, the Development Corporation has four staff workers, the electrical contractors have two employees and the Band Enterprises has four office employees up to 100 seasonal workers.

"We're looking to develop an apartment building in Montreal Lake," says Phaneuf, "and we're doing 30 renovations in the neighbourhood of \$400,000. We have six housing units approved for construction this spring at \$540,000."

The motivation, says Phaneuf, is jobs and training for the band members which number 1300 on reserve and a similar number living off the reserve.

"I'm more familiar with the construction because I also manage that area. It's long term goal is to help other bands get into general contracting, either starting out or with housing projects."

"Twenty percent of our work is commercial, that is non-band related; usually \$200,000 a year. We're just starting to get more aggressive in that



area and now, with sufficient staff, we feel we can go into other areas."

Phaneuf admits though that so far major contracts have failed to come the corporation's way but he is confident that will change as their expertise grows.

"We're looking at joint ventures with large construction companies," adds Phaneuf, who gives these words of warning to those wishing to emulate Montreal Lake.

"It's a fairly tough road. Make sure you set up an organization that can control your costs and make sure your employees are trained and can work in other areas as well. Our supervisory staff get a lot of instruction in other areas of construction so they are more versatile and can take on other jobs."

Phaneuf is proud to point out the \$250,000 contract the development corporation has with the pulp and paper giant Weyerhaeuser in managing a model forest, a joint venture with the LaRonge band.

"Our forestry management has been going on for about three years. Our forestry manager and one of the councillors are leaving for Russia to meet with both indigenous and government officials interested in doing the same type of forestry management including managing trees, the animals and hunting."

Phaneuf ruefully adds that the Russians were most impressed because of the geographical similarity of the area to theirs — in Siberia.

Project management is also a ripe target for development, concludes Phaneuf, which will contribute to the continued success of the Montreal Lake Development Corporation.

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A message from  
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# Saskatchewan Company Provides Pension, Group Insurance Services

by Dale Stelter

For a number of years, First Nations Insurance Services Ltd., located in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, has been providing services dealing with employee benefits. More specifically, the company's mandate is to provide uniformity in employee benefits throughout Indian governments, which include the 74 Indian bands in Saskatchewan, tribal councils, and the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations and their institutions.

Employee benefits include pension plans and group insurance, with the latter featuring such programs as life insurance, disability insurance, and health and dental benefits.

First Nations Insurance Services is majority-owned by the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN). The company's services are provided as the result of a joint agreement between the FSIN and the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada, one of the top-rated insurance companies in Canada and internationally, to provide standard pension plans and administration for the province's 74 bands.

The services offered by First Nations Insurance are tailored to meet the needs of treaty and non-treaty Indians, according to the specific situations and circumstances of the clients. The company acts as an intermediary between the insurance company and bands and tribal coun-



cils, and in this way makes sure that clients get the full advantage of the benefits offered. The company also offers workshops to provide information to band administrators, and sends out newsletters to clients.

As well, First Nations Insurance Services looks after the dealings with the various governmental agencies, such as the federal Department of Indian and Northern Affairs, for the initial

funding applications, and the federal office that deals with pension regulations.

A further advantage that First Nations Insurance Services offers is found in the plans offered for group insurance. When a band joins, it participates with the other bands in the umbrella plan to take advantage of the enhanced benefits and premium rates, rather than having its own plan. As Dianne Lafond, Manager of Administration for First Nations Insurance, points out, this provides the advantages that stem from higher numbers.

First Nations Insurance Services is also presently doing some work in Alberta, providing services to the Fort Chipewyan Cree Band, and the Samson Band Education Department.

For further information on First Nations Insurance Services Ltd., contact Dianne LaFond at (306) 763-4712. The mailing address is 1100 First Avenue East, Suite 201, Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, S6V 2A7; the fax number is (306) 763-3255.

## Saskatchewan Government Covers Legal Fees

Last July, Ottawa off-loaded nearly \$40 million in annual social assistance payments to the Saskatchewan government for Band members leaving their reserve. Since then the Confederation of Tribal Councils and the Prince Albert Grand Council have been asking for court action. Joined by the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN), and with the Saskatchewan government kicking in \$100,000.00 for legal expenses, these three groups have launched a suit at the Court of Appeal. They intend to put several questions with a constitutional reference before the bench. Deputy justice minister Brent Cotter expects the questions to be ready "within a matter of months."

In the meantime the government intends to pursue a political solution to the question of who is responsible for these payments. "What we want to do is continue to examine and develop our ability to present a court case without parking it when hopeful signs are present," Cotter said. He cited as an "encouraging sign" the Liberal Party's vowed determination to deal with self-government quickly. Some estimates put the legal bill much higher.

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# First Nations Gaming Alliance Must Wait

by Derek McCall

A tentative casino agreement between the Saskatchewan government and the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN) regarding the development of casinos in Regina and Saskatoon has the First Nations Gaming Alliance waiting. The five bands that make up the alliance had plans to open on-reserve casinos on March 22, the anniversary of the R.C.M. Praid on the White Bear reserve, but will now have to wait until May, when the FSIN will report on gambling talks with provincial and federal officials at its general assembly.

"We'll wait and see how those negotiations go," said Bruce Standingready, councillor for the White Bear band, a member band of the alliance. "We'll give them a chance to see what they can come up with." Although business plans for the

casinos will proceed, the alliance fears that its attempt to secure jurisdiction over gambling on reserves might be lost.

The FSIN will help administer the casinos proposed for Regina and Saskatoon, and receive a share of the profits. The government has announced that at least 50 per cent of the jobs created by the developments will go to Natives.

Key to the agreement is the establishment of a First Nations Gaming Centre to monitor Native gaming activities throughout the province, from lotteries to raffles, and including a computer network linking all on-reserve bingo. A system for collection, investment and distribution of revenues will also be developed.

The tentative agreement is not cast in stone, but is a preliminary agreement, and is viewed by the FSIN as a first step in establishing a Native gaming industry in the province.



## Huge Bingo at Hobbema

This month the Maskewiches Cultural College Foundation at Hobbema will hold a bingo with prizes in the thousands of dollars. The foundation, which is owned by the Four Nations of Hobbema, which helps fund the Maskewiches College, hopes to draw record crowds for the event.

"The total amount for the regular games is \$100,000.00," says Rose Makinaw, co-ordinator for the event. "We open the doors at nine o'clock

Saturday morning. We'll have the bonanza pre-call at ten thirty, and the early bird game starts at twelve-thirty."

Over and above the \$100,000.00 in general prize money there are to be two bonanza games. The size of the bonanza prizes will depend upon attendance and how many bingo cards are sold, but Makinaw estimates they will be over \$5,000.00 a piece.

The event is to take place at the Pane Multiplex at Hobbema on Saturday, February 26. For more information call Rose Makinaw at the Maskewiches Cultural College Foundation, (403) 585-3925.



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# Sports

## 1994 Arctic Winter Games



Excitement is mounting as the March 6, 1994 date for the opening ceremonies of the 1994 Arctic Winter Games draws near.

All of the sporting and cultural events of the 1994 Arctic Winter Games will take place in the Town of Slave Lake, Alberta. This beautiful northern hub is located 250 kilometres northwest of Edmonton and is easily accessible by air, commercial bus or any number of scenic highways.

The 1994 Games mark the first time since their introduction in 1968 that the Arctic Winter Games will be held in the province of Alberta.

The Town of Slave Lake provides a perfect locale for the 1994 Winter Games. Slave Lake is a vibrant community, prosperous, full of life and eager to devote time and energy to the success of the Games. Sport is an important part of the Slave Lake lifestyle and the community takes pride in its reputation for mass participation, fair play and its history of hosting successful cultural and sporting events.

The Arctic Winter Games will bring over 2000 athletes, coaches and support staff to Slave Lake. International media coverage means that the Games will put Slave Lake on the map. New and improved athletic facilities mean post-Games value to Slave Lakers. Above all the Arctic Winter Games will give Slave Lake a positive reputation in the northern community

and a community-wide feeling of pride and accomplishment.

The Arctic Winter Games Corporation was formed in 1968 in an effort to provide opportunity for northern athletes to compete on a regional and non-elite level. The first games were held in Yellowknife in 1970 and have been held every two years since.

There are three main objectives of the Arctic Winter Games — to encourage maximum participation of all ages and cultures in athletic competition, cultural exhibition and social interchange. The Arctic Games logo of three interlocking rings symbolizes these objectives as equal and interdependent.

The Arctic Winter Games encourages participation from all circumpolar jurisdictions, however the participants currently come mainly from Alaska, Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Northern Alberta. Participation has also come from Northern Quebec, and more recently Greenland, Labrador and the United Soviet Republics.

There are currently nineteen sports represented at the Arctic Winter Games. These include winter sports (figure skating and cross-country skiing), year round sports (gymnastics and basketball) and uniquely northern sports (dog-mushing and snowshoeing).

The 1994 Slave Lake Games will host Inuit/Dene Games reinforcing northern cultural values in the Arctic Winter Games.

The overall development and implementation of the Games is looked after by the Arctic Winter Games International Committee. For each set of Games a Host Society is created from within the host community to take care of the planning, financing and execution of the Games. During the 1994 Arctic Winter Games over 1000 volunteers will work to ensure success.

The cost of hosting the 1994 Arctic Winter Games is \$2,220,800. The Host Society is counting on provincial and municipal support as well as federal contribution to cover 70 percent of this amount. Corporate and individual sponsorships will account for the remaining 30 percent.

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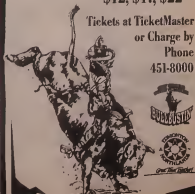
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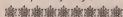
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# Arctic Winter Games Trials in Fort Simpson

by Cynthia deKluyver

Fort Simpson suffered an invasion of sorts over the weekend of January 18 to 19. As the site for the Territorial Trails for both wrestling and indoor girls' soccer, 108 athletes flew into the town of 1,150 hoping to win a spot on the Northwest Territories team. The winners will head to the Arctic Winter Games in Slave Lake, Alberta, March 6 - 12.

The Yellowknife Girls Soccer team did what they had to in order to win the championship game against Baffin in the 14 and under division — each one of them put pink grapefruit lip balm on her lips. Life lotion on her legs and one sports sock inside out. The recipe seems to have worked for them so far.

Of course, skill might have had something to do with it too. But whatever it was, the seven-member team will be off to the Arctic Winter Games next month.

It is a very sweet victory for Ingrid Green, the twenty-three year old coach of the Yellowknife team. Green was on the Yellowknife team the last time that Yellowknife made it to the Arctic Winter Games. That was in



1984 and it was in those games that Green scored the winning goal in a 1-0 game that won the NWT team a gold medal.

The young women were enthusiastic about their upcoming trip to Slave Lake. Team member Amy Simpson said that she looked forward to meeting lots of other people. Her younger sister, Allison Simpson, was a bit worried about possible mishaps in the coming weeks. "I just don't want to break anything before we go," she joked.

Gila Kravitz said that she looked forward to trading jackets with other teams. "Alaskan or Russian jackets would be the coolest," she said. But the thing that Kravitz is most looking forward to is the drug test. "I get to pee in a bottle. I never got to do that before," she enthused as her team mates laughed.

As the thrill of the win subsided, and weary looks of happiness spread across their faces, Coach Green said that she wanted to make a phone call to Yellowknife. "I really want to call my dad," she said. "He has always been my biggest fan."

In the next building, 12 wrestlers (6 bantam and 6 junior) won spots on the NWT roster from among the 34 athletes gathered together. Moses

Continued on page 19

## Governor General To Officially Open Games

The Lesser Slave Lake region has the privilege of welcoming the Right Honourable Ramon John Hnatyshyn on March 6, 1994, when he will declare the 1994 Slave Lake Arctic Winter Games officially open. The Governor General will attend the 1994 Arctic Winter Games Opening Ceremonies along with Her Excellency, Mrs. Gerda Hnatyshyn. On behalf of the people of Canada, the Governor General will welcome the athletes, coaches and spectators from Alaska, Greenland and Russia to Canada.

The Opening Ceremonies will take place in the Sawridge Mall parking lot, located on Slave Lake's Main Street. The ceremonies will kick off at 7:00 p.m., March 6, 1994. 1994 Arctic Winter Games President, David Redgate says "Games organizers are excited and honoured to host Her Excellencies at our international sporting and cultural festival." Redgate further explains "that Canadians are a kind and welcoming group that will be well represented by the spirit that the Governor General will bring to the Arctic Winter Games Opening Ceremonies."



**TOWN OF SLAVE LAKE**

### WELCOME TO THE 1994 ARCTIC WINTER GAMES

On behalf of the Town of Slave Lake, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 1994 Arctic Winter Games, being held March 6-12, 1994. I am sure you will find Slave Lake an energetic and friendly community during your stay.

1994 will mark the first time Alberta has hosted the Arctic Winter Games which are held every two years. There will be 19 pre-selected sports including a good mix of indoor and outdoor events as well as uniquely northern sports, such as dog mushing and Inuit and Dene Games. Our objectives are to encourage participation of all ages and cultures in athletic competition, cultural exhibition and social interchange.

The Town of Slave Lake is a perfect location for the Arctic Winter Games. Located just 2-1/2 hours north of Edmonton, it is easily accessible by commercial bus or any number of scenic highways. Nestled in rolling forested hills, Slave Lake boasts one of the largest, cleanest lakes in Alberta, with miles of long sandy beaches.

Another key to successful hosting of the Games lies in Slave Lake's progressive leadership, active volunteers, spirit and eagerness to excel. Over 1,200 volunteers will work together to make the Arctic Winter Games a success.

Slave Lake is expecting up to 2,000 athletes, coaches, cultural participants, officials and chiefs. Teams are coming from Alaska, Yukon, Northwest Territories, Northern Alberta, Greenland and Russia.

The excitement is mounting — plan to visit Slave Lake during the Arctic Winter Games. It promises to be a truly unique, once-in-a-lifetime experience that should not be missed!

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The Inuit/Dene Games will include such events as Snow Snake, One Foot High Kick, 2 Foot High Kick, One Arm Reach, Arm Pull, Alaska High Kick and Knuckle Hop, all pictured below.



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# World's Best Bull Riders to Compete in Edmonton

Tickets are now on sale at all Edmonton TicketMaster locations (451-8000) for Edmonton's first annual bull riding showdown. More than 100 of the world's best professional bull riders have been invited to Edmonton to compete at *Cody Snyder's World Champion Bull Bustin'* — presented by Edmonton Northlands — at 7:30 p.m. in Hall D, Northlands AgriCom, March 24 to 26, 1994.

The thrill sport of Bull Bustin' (sometimes referred to as Bullarama) is essentially a megadose of heart-stopping bull riding action accentuated by high-energy music and startling special effects. Although Bull Bustin' is very new to Canada (the first world-class bull riding-only event was held in Calgary in May 1993), it has become immensely popular in the United States (where it emerged from the traditional sport of rodeo in the late 1980s), as well as Australia and even Brazil.

*Cody Snyder's World Champion Bull Bustin'* will showcase the talents of 40 professional bull riders on Thursday and another 40 on Friday. The 10 top-ranked bullriders each night will earn the opportunity to ride a second bull (i.e. 50

action-packed bull rides per night).

The best five bullriders from Thursday's and Friday's competitions will advance to an unprecedented ride-off on Saturday, March 26. They will compete against 20 of the world's top-ranked PBR (Professional Bull Riders) members, mostly American riders, plus Canada's 10 best bull riders — all finalists at the 1993 Canadian Finals Rodeo. The 10 leading riders after one go-round on Saturday night will also ride a second bull to determine an overall event winner.

Bull riders at *Cody Snyder's World Champion Bull Bustin'* will compete for a share of \$40,000 in prize money. The top-scoring bull rider on Saturday will earn \$10,000 — the largest single pay-out percentage. All bull rides will be judged exactly as in rodeo.

*Cody Snyder's World Champion Bull Bustin'* is expected to attract the biggest names in professional bull riding, including many stars from the Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association (PRCA) in the United States.

Tickets to *Cody Snyder's World Champion Bull Bustin'* are \$12, \$17 and \$22. Three-day ticket packages (i.e. 150 bull rides) are also

tricks. They don't mind sharing secrets."

The Fort Simpson coach, Shane Thompson, agreed. He said that over the course of the weekend many friendships were renewed. Thompson also commented on the determination of the young wrestlers. "There was no kid that gave up," he said. "Even if they were down nine or ten points, they kept on going."

According to Thompson, wrestling teaches kids the facts of life. "It teaches you that there is always somebody better than you," he said. "If you accept that, then you can deal with life."

Half of the twelve spots were won by Inuit wrestlers from the eastern Arctic. Tremblay commented that their participation in the Arctic Winter Games was a new development. "Before, you wouldn't have seen kids from the eastern Arctic," he said. "There is really good representation from across the Northwest Territories here."

At 4:00 Sunday morning — in the dark cold — the athletes piled back into planes bound for Yellowknife and further connections back to their hometowns. But not before medals were on and friendships made.

available for \$30, \$45 and \$60. The seating capacity for this event is limited to 4,000 fans per performance.

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## Arctic Winter Games

Continued from Page 17



Qamipik, a 43 kg, 14-year-old wrestler from Cape Dorset won one of the spots. He said he has wrestled for two years but already has a love for the sport. "I like to throw people," he said.

Qamipik also said that he enjoyed his quick stay in Fort Simpson where he spent his time off the mat in the local video arcade.

There was a pervasive sense of sportsmanship at the event. "We like to pride ourselves on the spirit here — the kids sleep together (in the gym)," said Rick Tremblay, the Yellowknife draw master. "They teach each other holds and

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# A Tribute to Native Artists

## Inuvialuit Sculptor carves his way

by John Copley

It's only been four short years since Rodney Kolausok first discovered his talent as an artist.

And his recent invitation to strut his stuff in front of a live audience at

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Air Date: February 21, 1994

(replayed) February 28 • Time: 10:30 p.m.

Families of Native Children: Support group for non-native parents of Native children.

Aboriginal Student Council from U of A will be

speaking about the Native Awareness Days.

Hi-Lites of up and coming singer Eka Janus from her performance on Shaw Cables "Project Discovery"

Air Date: March 7, 1993 • Time: 10:30 p.m.

(replayed) March 24

Speaker Robert Lubacan from Canada Council for

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Rodney Kolausok

renowned Chipewyan artist Jane Ash Poitras' Edmonton art gallery, First Impressions, appears to be just the first of many such showings.

"I'm a little (overwhelmed) and somewhat uncomfortable working in front of a crowd of people," admits the 23-year-old Inuvialuit artist, "but I guess over time I'll get used to it."

Kolausok found his talent one day in 1989 when he picked up a piece of soapstone and created his first sculpture.

"It was a bear," smiles the shy, soft-spoken artist, who says the bear is one of his favourite subjects. "I could never shoot one," he adds, "but I sure like sculpting them."

Inspired by the work of other artists, Rodney Kolausok says he didn't realize he had a talent until the piece was finished and his friends wanted to buy it.

It was their interest and "some serious prodding from my brother" that helped him to decide to pursue a career as an artist.

Rodney's 30-year-old brother, Eddie, now his business manager and advisor, says the sky is the limit for young Rodney.

"He has a special talent and an exceptional attitude," says the elder Kolausok, "and it's only a matter of time and a lot of hard work and Rodney will undoubtedly become one of the country's best sculptors."

Working with a variety of materials including soapstone, alabaster, pearlite and more recently, limestone, Kolausok says the customers want home-grown products and show little interest in imported materials.

"The problem," says brother Eddie, "is that Canadian products are a good deal more expensive than imported ones. For example, Quebec soapstone or a similar product found in the Arctic runs about two dollars a pound while alabaster imported from Brazil or Italy costs about 40 percent less."

Rodney says material is not always easy to find. "It's impossible to find working materials in some cities and towns but Bedrock Supplies in Edmonton has one of the best selections I've seen to date. It's where I buy all of my material," adds the artist.

And finding material to work with is not the only problem that artists have to contend with. According to the elder Kolausok pricing the goods so that the artist receives fair value for his work is one of the stumbling blocks. "There are many unscrupulous art dealers out there who take every possible liberty they can with the artist," he adds. He says some take as much as 70 percent of the purchase price — or double the asking price, thus making the artwork much more difficult to sell.

Eddie also maintains that it is very difficult to compete in the marketplace. This, he says, is because of the machined factory pieces that are currently saturating the market. "Manufacturing companies have

Continued on Page 24

Our best wishes to Alberta's Native Artists

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# Historic Native Art Exhibit at Glenbow



"There had been a robbery at a store. The police came by and spoke to Artist who was sitting at the front of the store. He was able to draw a picture of the thief for the police and the robber was captured." This story is told of Hongoeyesa, an Assiniboine artist who lived in what is now southern Saskatchewan between 1860 and 1897. An exhibition of his work, entitled *Reclaiming History: Ledger Drawings by the Assiniboine Artist Hongoeyesa*, runs in Calgary from Saturday, February 16 to Sunday, June 5, at Glenbow. The exhibition consists of 44 drawings in graphite, pencil crayon, crayon, and ink.

Called "ledger drawings" because they were sometimes done on lined accountant's paper provided by government Indian Agents, these drawings reveal not just the talent of the artist, but provide invaluable information about Native life in the mid to late 1800s: the buffalo hunt, battle, dance and ceremony, clothing and hair design, and scenes of everyday activities. The drawings also record historical events, such as the use of sternwheelers on the Missouri and Saskatchewan river systems.

Guest curator Valerie Robertson and John Haywahe, grandson of the artist, will give a Gallery Talk on Saturday, February 26 at 1:00 p.m., in the exhibition gallery. Admission to the Gallery Talk is free with Saturday admission of \$1.

According to Robertson she first saw the drawings in this exhibition in 1986, at the Glenbow Museum. At that time, they were attributed to an "unknown Assiniboine artist." Intrigued by the drawings, Robertson was compelled to research the identity of the artist. Her detective work brought her to the Touchwood File Hills Qu'Appelle Tribal Council at Fort Qu'Appelle in south Saskatchewan. There she met John Haywahe of Carry

The Kettle First Nations, grandson of the Assiniboine known as "Artist." Haywahe told Robertson that his grandfather had been a camp crier, and was called No-nnagan, or Hongoeyesa. But this was not enough to identify him as the artist responsible for the drawings.

Robertson searched the treaty payment lists of residents at Carry The Kettle, but found no one named "Artist" or "Hongoeyesa". One name, however, presented a possible link: "O-g-e-e-a", or "He Who Tells". It was Haywahe who pointed out the name should be spelled Hongoeyesa.

The 44 drawings were collected by Dr. O.C. Edwards, Indian Department physician in the southern Saskatchewan region between 1882 and 1901. Dr. Edwards' grandson, E.S. Gardiner, later donated the drawings to Glenbow.

Robertson worked closely with Haywahe, Charlotte Nahbixie, and other members of Carry The Kettle First Nations in her research. The results of this project will be made available for use in the teaching of Assiniboine at schools, creating a lasting legacy of this remarkable artist.

A fully illustrated catalogue of the exhibition is available at the Glenbow Museum Shop for \$24.95.

This exhibition is organized by Glenbow with the financial assistance of the Museums Assistance Program of the Department of Communications, the Calgary Region Arts Foundation, and is supported by the Province of Alberta and the City of Calgary. Following the Glenbow Exhibition the drawings will go on tour to Ontario, Quebec, Saskatchewan and British Columbia.

## RECLAIMING HISTORY

LEDGER DRAWINGS BY THE ASSINIBOINE ARTIST HONGOYEESA



Figure 1. 1885-1890 ledger drawing by a young Hongoeyesa.

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## Fashion designers catalogue to be launched

The Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business (CCAB) is launching its latest initiative targeting the promotion of Aboriginal fashion designers. The *Aboriginal Designers Catalogue and Directory*, which will promote Aboriginal fashion nationally and internationally, is the first of its kind.

Inquiries and interest generated from last year's successful *Winds of Change Fashion Show* made the catalogue a natural progression that will not only help the designers gain exposure, but will also provide a resource to potential manufacturers and buyers.

Each featured designer in the 56-page glossy catalogue will have an entire full-colour page devoted to their work. Photos of designs on each page will be accompanied by prices and sizes, a short biography and a description of the designer's specialty. This is intended to provide an avenue for direct purchasing, via mail order and also create an awareness of Aboriginal influence and design.

A publishers' selection committee will choose

the featured designers through applications and the decisions will be based on quality of the photos and the marketability of the designs. The committee will also consider the allocation of the entries so that there is equal representation from western, central, northern and eastern Canada.

In the back of the mail order catalogue, a useful directory will be provided. It will include the names and phone numbers of all the designers (professional or student), related fashion industry information and advertising. Aboriginal design schools, stores and fashion agencies will also be included to provide an avenue for new talent to introduce their designs.

The CCAB will target an audience of potential fashion buyers, manufacturers, general public and new and existing designers. In total, approximately 10,000 copies will be distributed nationwide, allowing for the maximum amount of exposure for Aboriginal designers.

The designers featured in the catalogue and directory are not required to pay any fees so that this opportunity is available to all Aboriginal

designers. There is a charge, however, on the limited amount of advertising space available.

CCAB is a national, non-profit organization that brings together Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people for mutually beneficial partnerships in employment, education, networking and business ventures. With chapters in Vancouver, Calgary, Winnipeg, Saskatoon and Toronto, CCAB also provides employment and business services.



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## Theatre Centre Seeking Apprentice Performers

For the last 19 years Native Theatre School (a project of the Association for Native Development in the Performing and Visual Arts - ANDPVA) has played an important role in the development of theatre by Native people in this country. As 1994 marks the 20th anniversary, Artistic Director Floyd Favel and Traditional Cultural Director Edna Manitowabi are pleased to welcome a new direction and a new name as a response to this growth.

The newly named Centre for Indigenous Theatre recognizes the relatedness of Indigenous people all over the world; in history, techniques and destiny. They also realize the need to record traditions which will disappear, and, to exchange and enter dialogue with each other as they elaborate a contemporary performance culture rooted in the principles of the past.

An International core group working alongside traditional performance specialists from

the Greenlandic, Sami, Seneca, Tuscarora, Cree, Hopi, and Ojibway nations has formed with the task of researching, learning and developing Indigenous performance traditions, developing training for the performer based on these principles, creating performance incarnating these principles and most importantly the development of an active living harmonious culture, to define the role of a performer in living society.

The International core group and traditional specialists will be seeking six apprentice performers for the 1994 summer season, which will begin June 27, 1994. The apprentices will be chosen through auditions or interviews.

Centre for Indigenous Theatre invites anyone who is of Aboriginal ancestry, above the age of nineteen and who has performing or traditional experience to inquire by calling (416) 972-0871. The deadline for applications is March 15, 1994.

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# Young actor's career in full swing

by Derek McCall

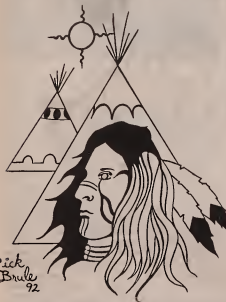
To die on stage is a romantic dream of many an actor, but to Kayla Herman it is a job. Appearing in Theatre Network's production of *Collateral Damage*, written by Canadian playwright Mansel Robinson, twelve-year-old Kayla had the unenviable task of committing suicide on stage. *Collateral Damage* is anything but kids' stuff,

but this dark, poetic nightmare charged with political overtones is well within Kayla's grasp as an actress.

Looking ahead to the future this grade seven student at McKernan Junior High School in Edmonton has no delusions of grandeur. She plans to go to university and study education while pursuing her acting career. Pulling a double workload is nothing Kayla hasn't done before. While playing a part in the CTV/NFB/Kickinghorse Productions collaboration, *Moccasin Plains*, which aired on CTV in 1992, she kept up with her studies on set between scenes. When I asked her if this wasn't a tall order, she replied in true twelve-year-old form, "No. I spent most of the time hiding from the tutor." Still, she maintains excellent grades.

Other credits in Kayla's portfolio include the Stage Polaris Production of *How to Eat Like a Child*, a musical comedy in which she had a singing part. She has also recently auditioned for a part in a feature film rumoured to star John Candy, to be shot in Mexico.

Kayla's father, Jimmy Herman, who stars in the CBC TV series, *North of 60*, and who also had a part in the box office hit *Dances With Wolves*, has been a strong influence on Kayla's career, but her true mentor, she says, is Tantoo Cardinal, who also appeared in *Dancing With Wolves*, and who won a Genie for her part in *Loyalties*. While visiting her father on the set of *Dances With Wolves*, Kayla and Tantoo Cardinal got to know each other, and Kayla's admiration for this talented Native Canadian was forged. It is not unreasonable to think that Kayla will someday play the role of mentor to some rising young star.



## WORDSEARCH

THEME: NATIVE ARTISTS

by John Copley

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Crow, Holt, Luit, Ratt, Ward

5 letter:

Bruce, Pelle, Nevis, Perry, Lorry, Demas, Reece, Stutt, Sperry, Milan

6 letter:

Nelson, Duncan, Ewasak, McLain, Cotter, Bushey, Singer, Cardot, Beaver

7 letter:

Potras, Calihoo, Fischer, Redcrow

8 letter:

Cardinal, Callihoo, Woodward, Beaulieu, Turcotte

9 letter:

Parenteau, Starlight

10 letter:

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# Artist Has Maintained a Steady Presence

by Ryan Edwards

Kathy Shirt's works have a habit of coming up again and again, sometimes in the most unexpected of places. For example, some of her paintings and crafts, including three dream catchers and a wall hanging, have recently appeared on the sets of the popular television series *Destiny Ridge*. As well, one of the characters wore a leather dress that Kathy designed.

Kathy, who is based in Edmonton but is originally from Saddle Lake, has been painting, designing clothes, and producing crafts for quite a few years now.

As for her painting, she utilizes all mediums, but is currently concentrating mainly on acrylics and oils. Some of her main projects include producing stylized portraiture, and continuing work on two series of paintings that she began some time ago. One of those is called the "Mother Earth Series", and now contains 24 paintings. Begun more than five years ago, this series contains a range of environmental themes.

Another series accents the northern lights, and contains what Kathy calls "a variety of expres-

sions about what I feel about the aurora borealis." This series also incorporates some environmental themes, and like the "Mother Earth Series", contains strong spiritual currents.

Kathy has also been designing clothing for many years, and is currently concentrating mainly on bridal wear, but also produces a wide variety of traditional and contemporary Native clothing. She produces custom-made and made-to-order articles of clothing, and is kept very busy at the clothing design part of her work.

Some of Kathy's bridal designs will be featured at a bridal fair to be held at the Fantasyland Hotel in Edmonton in the latter part of March. Some more of her clothing, as well as some of her paintings and craft work, were featured at the Lunar Year of Chinese Festival Cultural Art Show, held in Edmonton on February 10th to 12th.

As for her crafts, in addition to making dream



Above: University-graduation outfit designed by Kathy



Kathy Shirt

catchers, Kathy has done such things as moose and caribou hair tufting, quill and bead work, and producing ring-shaped wall hangings with burned-leather designs. In the past, she has taught Native crafts courses and hopes to do so again in the future.

And if Kathy's longevity in the fields of art, clothing design, and craftwork are any indication, she likely will be back at the teaching again. Because Kathy Shirt has certainly proven not to be any kind of a flash in the pan, but has instead maintained a constant presence over the years, producing a steady supply of her unique styles of art, clothing, and crafts.

To view Kathy's work, or to place any kind of an order, Kathy can be reached by phoning (403) 481-6967.

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## Inuvialuit Sculptor Continued from Page 20

literally hundreds of thousands of pieces being put into stores every year and, of course, assembly line products are much less money — and some of the buyers really don't have a clue what they are buying. Original art from the artist does cost more — but it's the real deal... Selling an original is made much more difficult when one is forced to compete with the cheap junk that comes out of factories."

Rodney dreams of the day when he can produce large and "significant" pieces. "And not soapstone," he adds, "but granite or marble — these are very hard materials and I'm looking forward to the day when I feel I'm ready for the challenge."

Soft based materials, like soapstone, are more difficult to work with, says the artist. "Fine lines and detail work are harder, especially with some

of the softer varieties of soapstone. Some are very brittle and can break right in the middle of a project."

Rodney's managers are currently in negotiations with a Calgary mall for a show sometime at the end of March.

"After that," Eddie thinks, he may be "headed for Boston" where there "is also some interest in his work" and where "initial talks have already begun for a date in April."

The young artist says he wants to do "some pieces with substance" to them.

"Taking care of the earth; looking after the environment; feeding the hungry of the world; protecting wildlife," says Rodney, "that's the vision I have and these are the types of work I'd like to produce — sculptures that symbolize the important things for mankind."

More information on Rodney Kolausok's work can be obtained from First Impressions Gallery, located in the west wing of Manulife Place in downtown Edmonton.

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# Proud Metis Artisan Creates Art Form

by Heather Andrews Miller

A unique and innovative art form which has come out of Churchill, Manitoba is a credit to its creator and to the ingenuity of Aboriginal crafters everywhere. Myrtle Catherine deMeulles has developed a form of tufting with caribou hair which she copyrighted in 1985 and which has become increasingly popular ever since.

"When I started experimenting with caribou hair, I came up with a transitional art form, partly sculptured and partly tufted," says the 53-year-old Metis woman. "Tufting is a dying art, originally found among the Slavey Indians, and I was pleased to be able to master and perfect the craft."

DeMeulles began sewing in Churchill, Manitoba when her five children were living at home, and it was a craft she loved. In 1981, she began working for the Arctic Trading Company. "My employers, Penny and Keith Rawlings, were committed to the people of the north and wished to preserve their culture through arts and crafts," she says. As deMeulles shared similar desires for traditional Aboriginal art forms, they formed a sewing centre and began marketing slippers, mukluks, mitts and fur coats. "I did a lot of experimenting on my own time at night," deMeulles remembers.

After a Native Arts teacher from Alberta introduced her to caribou tufting, she tried, and perfected the unique craft. "I ended up teaching it all over western Canada, from here in Churchill to the Blood Reserve in Alberta. I'm confident the art form is being revived and am overjoyed at the popularity it is gaining," she says.

DeMeulles grew up on the trapline near Cumberland House, Saskatchewan with her parents. "I was one of 12 children of Joseph and Margaret McAuley, and I grew up on a diet of Mom's bannock and fried moose meat in a very traditional lifestyle which my father taught me to love and respect," she says. She completed school in The Pas, Manitoba and later moved to Churchill where she began working in 1952. "I was working as a cook's helper feeding 500 men, one of which was Robert deMeulles. We were married in 1959 and raised a family of five," she says.

DeMeulles showed signs of entrepreneurship early in her marriage. "As soon as my kids were old enough to be in school, I began working for the Hudson's Bay Company, selling sewing machines and materials. It was easy to get other women involved in their own sewing projects,



Myrtle Catherine deMeulles

and I loved doing various projects of my own," she states.

Next, she bought into a taxi cab company. "I drove a cab for five years. In conjunction with that, I ran the ambulance service," she says. She laughs as she tells about burning out two motors in her cars because she didn't let the oil circulate in 40 below zero weather before taking off to the hospital to get the ambulance. "I used to line up my clothes like the firemen do."

Her spare time was always spent creating and sewing handicrafts, her original designs making the work unique and unmistakably her own. When she began working with caribou tufting, she progressed through traditional designs from birds, animals and Aboriginal people, learning how to sculpt and frame her original designs.

"When I began creating eagle and bear themes, I decided to begin to exhibit my work, and soon found several good arts and crafts shows to attend," she says. She has been to Saskatoon, Victoria, Snow Lake, Thompson, Flin Flon and was most recently in Edmonton in October 1993. "Now I get invited to do demonstrations of traditional art such as tufting, beading and quill work. I am often invited to speak about my life as a trapper's daughter, and the development of my art form," says the originator of more than 200 original designs.

DeMeulles hopes to become recognized as the creator of her chosen specialty. "When I started my own business from my home in 1991 it was to advance my style of caribou tufting after I had copyrighted it as an original craft. The 200

designs I have originated are going to be compiled into a catalogue. It is important to me to be recognized as creator and developer of the art form."

Today, deMeulles lives a quiet life, her days spent working on sculptures and custom work gleaned from her occasional appearances at craft shows. She needs attend only a few shows to have enough orders for a year. "I love my work. I thank God for giving me the gift and the hands to do it. I hope God will give me enough years to bring it to others and share my work. The beauty comes from the most humble of creatures, and I want to pass this on to all people, and especially to my grandchildren and great-grandchildren."

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# Justice for all

## Steps toward autonomy

by Del Sty

People of the Siksika Nation have the benefit of a twelve-member all-Native police force keeping the peace and protecting the property and persons of the Bands' 4,500 people. According to Police Chief Bob Reid this is a distinctively autonomous step for the Siksika Nation and it is the outcome of ten years development. In fact the Siksika Nation Police Service has been fully operational since 1989.

Police Chief Reid explained, "We are a fully-staffed police force that has its own police services controlled by its own five member police commission," comprised of the following members: Levi Manyheads, Chairman, Amy Melting Towel, Vice Chair, Larry Waterchief, Band councillor/commissioner, Tom Crane Bear, Elder/commissioner, and Rick Running Rabbit, Secretary.

Bob Reid himself is a fairly recently appoint-

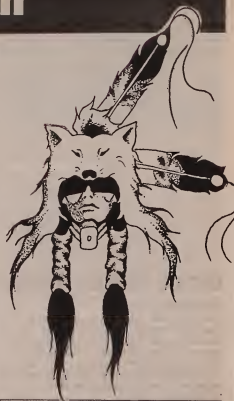
ment to the position of Police Chief following nine and a half years at the Louis Bull police service. "I've been through the growing pains," he says and he's happy to come into a situation at Siksika Nation where full autonomy will be achieved March 1, 1994.

Police Chief Reid, Deputy Police Chief Dave Hamilton (seconded from the RCMP until 1996) and ten constables provide police services to 4,500 mainly rural-based people.

"The biggest problem is alcohol or drug-related. And we see assaults, and thefts. The crimes are prosecuted using the provincial court system."

There is a fundamental reason for developing services like these in the community. "We try to be community-based. We make an effort to keep problems under control without dragging people into court. We are able to mediate with community members." The local members of the police service can often communicate on a familiar level.

Continued on Page 30



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Batoché NHS Place: Visitor Reception Centre	March 16/94	2:00 - 4:00 6:30 - 9:00	Open House Public Meeting
Saskatoon Place: Circle Drive Suites Douglass Room	March 17/94	2:00 - 4:00 7:00 - 9:00	Open House Public Meeting

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## Gun type contributed to accidental shooting

by Ryan Edwards

According to the *Winnipeg Free Press*, an official with Winnipeg's city police said that Manitoba Native leader J. J. Harper might not have died if the police officer who stopped him in 1988 had been carrying a semi-automatic handgun.

The official said that the semi-automatic nine-millimetre pistol requires a two-handed motion to chamber a bullet before firing it. By contrast, the .38-calibre revolver currently used has no safety, and can be fired by just pulling the trigger.

Winnipeg city police are studying the nine-millimetre pistol as a possible replacement for the .38-calibre revolver.

J.J. Harper was killed by a bullet from a .38-calibre revolver. He had been stopped for questioning on a Winnipeg street by Constable Robert Cross in March of 1988. The police maintain that Harper was accidentally shot when the gun went off during the struggle which Cross says ensued.

Continued on Page 31

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# FSIN Housing Program in the works

by Derek McCall

The Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations and two of its institutions, the National Indian Financial Corporation and the Saskatchewan Indian Loan Company, are in the process of establishing a program to address the housing needs of Saskatchewan Indian bands.

"We've been trying to establish a new housing program, taking into account what is required at the reserve level based on good sound housing policies at the reserve level," says Lindsay Cyr, Third Vice-Chief of the FSIN. "There are certain dollars required to meet that service delivery." The FSIN has estimated that housing needs across the province are substantial. 800 new houses are needed, while much of what presently stands is in poor condition.

Central to the FSIN drive to establish adequate housing for Saskatchewan Indians is the issue of who has control over funding. "We're looking at the bilateral process that's necessary in order to have direct funding. How that's structured and how that will come about we're still not sure. Those are the initiatives that we've been trying to make to get Indian control of Indian housing here in Saskatchewan," continues Cyr.

"There are maintenance systems that have to be put in place. There are home ownership programs that have to be put into place... All these things require funding and financing. We're still looking at how we can agree to that in a bilateral agreement with the federal government."

The housing program the FSIN seeks to establish does not deal only with the present housing crisis in Saskatchewan, but is intended to facilitate the long-term needs of that province's Aboriginal population. One reason the problem exists today is that the quality of housing built on reserves twenty years ago was substandard, and the result is that those houses are now uninhabitable. They have literally fallen apart.

"We look at it in terms of cost savings. What has been provided in the past hasn't been much more than 15 or 20 year housing units. The longevity of the houses wasn't that great," says Cyr. At the time those houses were built the money for their construction came directly from Ottawa. With direct financing the FSIN believes the quality of housing would increase dramatically.

Bilateral negotiations dictate that it is impossible to predict when an agreement will be reached, but in the meantime, the FSIN is continuing to develop their strategy. "We have a needs assessment, a need analysis of what we require in terms of back-log and in terms of new family formations and the ongoing housing needs," says Cyr.

reached, but in the meantime, the FSIN is continuing to develop their strategy. "We have a needs assessment, a need analysis of what we require in terms of back-log and in terms of new family formations and the ongoing housing needs," says Cyr.

## Opaskwayak Cree Continued from Page 5

departments and all money generated through band enterprises, including the three businesses (of a total 26) in the Oitewaka Mall, goes directly back into providing services for the community here.

A precedent has now been set and both Ross and Smith think that bands across the nation will soon be fighting their own battles with government.

"This has been a real learning experience," quips Ross, who feels that government may now sit up and take notice.

"We've all accomplished something in this process," adds Smith. "It's been a good experience for all concerned" and now hopefully all sides will "have a better understanding" of what the other is doing.

Band members are fully aware of the ramifications of the decisions just passed by the courts.

"We have excellent community support," notes Ross, who adds that "we put out a weekly newsletter to band members and someone is always available to answer questions and explain" processes either in action or already completed.

Everything is a "learning experience," maintains Ross. "Even when the mall first opened in 1975 we went through a period of learning — in fact, the businesses never generated a profit until 1982/83."

Asked whether or not the Opaskwayak Band would become involved with other reserves seeking similar status, Ross said, "We probably wouldn't get involved but we could answer some of the questions that are bound to arise."

The courtroom decision in the case was handed down on February 2, 1994.

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## Decent housing needed

by Derek McCall

Housing conditions on the Moose Woods Indian Reserve south of Saskatoon have reached crisis levels, but are consistent with conditions on reserves across Canada. A 1992 parliamentary committee report says there is a shortage of 11,700 houses on reserves across the country, and of the 70,000 existing houses, only half are fit for habitation. Over thirty percent of those houses have no sewage system and no running water.

The housing crisis is, however, just the tip of the iceberg, for with inadequate housing comes a host of social problems, from health problems to marriage breakdown, to alcoholism and child abuse.

"It's terrible," said Chief Guy Lariviere of the

Canoe Lake Band in the Star Phoenix. "We're overcrowded. People are moving out and missing out on the services they can get on the reserve. A lot of our people are living in limbo, living in communities near the reserve."

Without exception, every band in Saskatchewan has a waiting list of members in need of housing. The Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN) has estimated the number of houses needed across the province at about 800.

Although government expenditure on reserve housing across Canada reaches \$300 million annually, the figure barely scratches the surface of the problem. According to the Assembly of First Nations an expenditure of \$3.3 billion is required to properly house all those on waiting lists, and to repair and service existing housing on reserves.

Continued on Page 30

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# Aboriginal Education

## Transition Year Program University of Alberta

The Transition Year Program (TYP) was initiated at the University of Alberta by the Office of Native Student Services in 1984. Since its modest beginning, the program now provides access to seven faculties on campus, and has become the major source of the overall participation of Aboriginal students at the University of Alberta. In fact, 69 percent of all Aboriginal students on campus in 1991/92 were associated with the Transition Year Program in one way or the other.

The TYP offers a one year university credit program that Aboriginal students can use to pursue degrees in the following faculties at the

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University of Alberta: Arts, Business, Engineering, Nursing, Science, Education, and Forestry and Agriculture. The program endeavours to provide a supportive learning environment that facilitates the transition to university life through friendship, group involvement and a range of educational support services that are integrated into the program. These services introduce the student to the requirements of university life and assist them in realizing their full academic and personal potential while enhancing their Aboriginal identity and culture.

The Transition Year Program is a one year university access program for Aboriginal students, administered by Native Student Services at the University of

Alberta. Students who successfully complete the program with the specified grade point average will qualify for admission to one of the above faculties at the University of Alberta. The program only runs from September to April; however, students can continue to take courses during the Spring and Summer sessions.

The program offers a number of first year University of Alberta courses which provide a foundation for further study in a variety of fields. Credits obtained are transferable to other programs at the University of Alberta as well as to other post secondary institutions. TYP students enroll in regular university courses through the Unclassified Student program. However, some of the classes are much smaller, allowing for a more supportive learning environment. In addition, tutorials are offered in each course to address individual problems that students might encounter in their studies.

A learning and living strategies course is also an integral and mandatory component of the program. This course covers topics such as time management, exam preparation and other study techniques. A non-credit "Writing for University" course is offered as part of the English 101 (U of A course) to encourage students to develop and improve their writing

*Continued on Page 29*



University of Alberta  
Edmonton

### OFFICE OF NATIVE STUDENT SERVICES

Native Student Services at the University of Alberta specializes in providing culturally appropriate support services to Aboriginal students, including the administration of the Transition Year Program.



### TRANSITION YEAR PROGRAM (TYP)

The Transition Year Program is a university credit access program for students of Aboriginal ancestry. The objective is to prepare Aboriginal students for admission into one of the eight faculties with complete transfer of all credits earned while in the access program.

Applications are now being accepted for the following 8 access programs:  
Arts, Agriculture/Forestry, Business, Education, Engineering, Native Studies, Nursing and Science.

### Minimum Admission Requirements

- 1) Aboriginal Ancestry
- 2) Minimum age of 18
- 3) A mark of at least 50% in all required high school subjects
- 4) A minimum overall average of 60%

Math 30 and some other Science high school subjects are required for Business, Engineering and Science.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: MAY 1, 1994**

### Other support services offered by Native Student Services include:

- individual pre-admission counselling to prospective students.
- a 3-day orientation to campus and academic life to all new and transfer students.
- on going individual personal, academic, financial and career/employment counselling.
- referrals to additional services on and/or off campus.
- advocacy for Aboriginal students including admission advocacy.
- social and cultural activities in cooperation with the Aboriginal Student Council.
- community liaison activities and recruitment particularly through the Student Ambassador Program.
- coordination of materials and/or study skills and any other remedial resources requested by the student.
- providing information about the U of A including Aboriginal specific programs on campus.
- scholarships and bursaries (a funding directory is available)

For further information, please contact:

Coordinator, Transition Year Program, Office of Native Student Services  
124 Athabasca Hall, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB T6G 2E8  
Phone: (403) 492-5677 • Fax: (403) 492-1674



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Supervisor of Human Resources and School Programs  
*Northland School Division No. 61*  
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# U of A Medical Awards Announced

The University of Alberta, Faculty of Medicine has a program to encourage more Native students to become doctors. It has the highest enrolment of Native students in the M.D. program of any Canadian medical faculty. The first Native graduate in 1993 was Dr. Johnny Brisebois, a Mohawk from Kahnawake, Quebec.

There are 12 Native students currently registered in the program. They come from across Canada and represent Abenaki, Blackfoot, Cree, Delaware, Inuit, Metis, Ojibwa, Odawa and Saulteaux Nations. Two students with medical degrees are expected to graduate in 1994: Craig Schacher, a Delaware from Six Nations and Dana Winterburn a non-status Abenaki from Odanak, Quebec. She will be the first female graduate.

The Faculty also is the only one in Canada to offer scholarships specifically for Native medical students. Two scholarships of \$1,000 each are offered annually in memory of Darcy Tailfeathers from the Blood Band who was the Faculty's first student. He was tragically killed in an automobile accident in 1987 in the third year of his studies.

The 1993 winners of the Darcy Tailfeathers Memorial Awards in Medicine are Lindsay Crowshoe from the Peigan Nation who is the first Albertan to win the award, and Danika Edmunds the first Inuit and first female winner.



Darcy Tailfeathers and Danika Edmunds

Lindsay is a cousin of Darcy Tailfeathers. He did his undergraduate studies at the University of Calgary. He is a former member of the Dinosaurs Football team which won the Vanier Cup in 1988. He is a winner of numerous academic and athletic awards and has been an active role model in his community for many years.

## Transition Year Program Continued from page 28

skills. Arrangements have also been made to offer an extended version of the Math 113 (Calculus) to give students a change to further develop their Math skills in an environment which encourages and motivates them to succeed. Attendance in all the different aspects of the program is mandatory and is monitored on a regular basis.

### Support Services

Support services which are unique to the TYP include a peer support network on campus and a comprehensive academic and personal support system integrated into the program. Specifically, these are:

- individualized pre-admission counselling on faculty admission requirements, procedures, degree requirements, course selection and telephone registration;
- orientation to campus and academic life as well as library usage;
- structured study skills sessions;
- a student lounge and a quiet study room;
- individual counselling with a chartered psychologist.

The peer network is realized through the Aboriginal Student Council which addresses cultural, social, political and economic issues faced by Aboriginal people. There are also social events organized by the Aboriginal Student Council, and Native Alumni, continuing students and former TYP students, who act as mentors to the incoming students.

Admission into a specific degree program at

the University of Alberta, via the Transition Year Program route, is a two step process. A student must first be accepted into one of the TYP access programs and complete the specific U of A courses offered in the access program with the required cumulative grade point average (CGPA). The student must then apply the following year for admission to the specific faculty. All courses taken in the TYP Access program are transferable to the degree program in the faculty.

To be eligible for TYP, students must have Aboriginal status, be at least 18 years of age, have a minimum mark of 50% in all required high school subjects, and a minimum overall average of 60%.

TYP access programs include arts, business, engineering, education, Native studies, nursing, science, and agriculture and forestry.

The TYP access routes can also be used as a starting point for many other degree programs such as Law, Medicine, and Dentistry.

Admission to the Transition Year Program can be a lengthy process and limited spaces are available. Prospective students are advised to begin admission enquiries as early as possible. The deadline for submission of applications, official transcripts and other supporting documents for September registration is May 1, 1994. Please note that only completed files will be reviewed by the Admissions Committee.

If you are interested in learning more about the University of Alberta Transition Year Program, contact Don Shade, TYP Co-ordinator at Native Student Services, 124 Athabasca Hall, U of A, Edmonton, Alberta, T6G 2E8, or phone (403) 492-5677.

Danika Edmunds is the only Inuit medical student in Canada. She is Labrador Inuit from Hopedale, Labrador. There is only one Inuit physician in Canada. She will be the second and the first female. Her uncle William Edmunds was a three time President of the Labrador Inuit. Her father is one of the first Inuit engineers in Canada.

For further information on the University of Alberta Health Care Careers program write to The Co-ordinator, NHCC Program, 2-45G Medical Sciences Building, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB T6G 2H7, telephone (403) 492-6350 or fax (403) 492-9531.

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The Co-ordinator, NNAPN, College of Nursing University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK S7N 0W0

Phone toll free: 1-800-463-3345, or (306) 966-6224

# Kinehiyawan che? Cree Language Lesson

by Trudy Merasty

These words and phrases are commonly used in every day language by Cree speakers. For example:

- astum ota — come here
- miyosin ota — it's nice here
- kayas — long time
- mihooyan — am healthy
- ayami — say something
- tansi awasiak? — how are the children?
- tansi kimosom? — how is your grandpa?
- tansi kokom? — how is your grandma?
- tanti awasiak? — where are the children?

- kimihoyan na? — are you healthy?
- tanti totin? — where are you going?
- sipwitiyan — I am going away
- waho — far away
- kisiwak — close by
- kawapimitin wapaki — I will see you tomorrow
- kawapimitin kitom — I will see you again
- ikosi — that's all
- tiniiki — thank you
- tawow — welcome

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## Steps Continued from Page 26

"We have people policing the people they understand. But their primary function remains to uphold peace and order, protect persons and property."

This police service is designed to play an active role in the healing process under way in the four rurally-oriented First Nations communities found in the Siksika Nation. They promote crime prevention programs in schools, at elders meetings. This is done with a feeling for the community.

"Today when the people look out their living-room windows and see a police car, 'I wonder who they're aiming to get,' is not their first thought any more," said Reid. "The trust is building and that's how trust develops, it takes time. We need more information to solve problems. People are getting used to having a police service. We get to hear their concerns."

These are the instruments of autonomy coming to the Siksika Nation.

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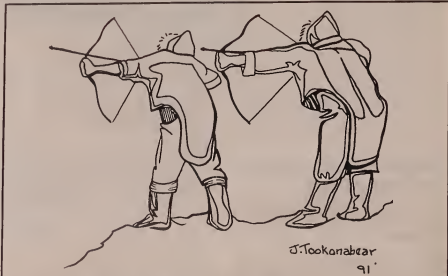
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Edmonton, Alberta T5J 1V9

## St. Michael's College Celebrates 100 Years

There is reason to celebrate this year at Duck Lake, Saskatchewan, because it is the 100th anniversary of the practice of teaching at St. Michael's College.

Harvey Cameron, chairman of the Centennial Committee explained that special activities will be planned for every month this year commencing in the month of March 1994. Two hundred and sixty students, of which half are in residence, will benefit from an heightened awareness of the educational tradition in Duck Lake Saskatchewan.

Watch for a full feature editorial on the school in the April 94 Education edition of *Alberta Native News*.



## Housing

Continued from Page 27

Further adding to the problem is the reluctance of financial institutions to lend money for construction of housing on crown land. The Saskatchewan government is, however, trying to encourage a change in attitude among these institutions, just as a parliamentary committee has approved a proposal by the FSIN to create its own financial institution.

Darcy Bear, councillor for the Moose Woods band, welcomes the opportunity to secure loans for housing, stating that several band members would like to build if they could find the money. The band, with its limited resources, is wholly dependent on government money for its housing needs. Last year the band requested subsidized loans from the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) for five houses. They had received a capital budget of \$80,000.00 from government sources, and the CMHC approved a loan for only one house.

According to Bear the Moose Woods reserve also needs to shore up their sewage system, as well as their water system. He says that their drinking water has high levels of iron, making it unpalatable at best, and practically undrinkable. Students at the band school drink bottled water brought in from Saskatoon.

We salute all aspects of Aboriginal economic development, from

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# Health & Healing

## Edmonton Board of Health —

### Preventative health care solutions at the Birth Control Clinics in Alberta by Del Sty

Economic reality, it's grim. There is no area of government-funded service that isn't being examined. Health care is being cut in Alberta and cut and restructured practically everywhere in Canada. The spenders are working with shrinking budgets. The hope is that they will maintain spending for programs that teach people about their health, how best to keep it.

Since 1969 a clinic staffed with physicians and nurses and other professionals who can inform, counsel and refer patients to the attendant care has made ours a healthier community. The Edmonton Board of Health Birth Control Clinic is an example of the creation of health awareness about prevention of socially transmitted diseases and the occurrence of unwanted pregnancy. It is one of five such clinics in Alberta, the others located in Fort McMurray, Red Deer, Calgary and Lethbridge.

"Our aim is to provide sexual health resources and services for women. All of our physicians are women. This has been proven to be especially important if there is abuse in the patient's history," explained Dawn Bucharski, Supervisor, Birth Control Centre, Edmonton Board of Health.

The clinics teach sexual health and provide medical answers for people of all ages, regardless of gender. "Under 20 is the biggest target group," said Bucharski. "We work on the premise that our patients should be making informed choices. We want them to receive accurate and clear information."

"The second biggest target group is people who are unable to afford examinations and supplies. The third group we provide medical services for are those seeking specialty items, like the morning-after pill. You see, unfortunately some physicians will not provide it."

"The fourth group are those who face unplanned pregnancy. We are able to make sure they know where to go," after their appointment at the Birth Control Clinic, which, said Bucharski, sometimes results in a referral to another health agency like Planned Parenthood or Birthright.

"We want to provide compassion and empathy." They do not want to pass judgements, she said.

"And we take a wholistic approach to their health. And, of course, confidentiality is the



### Handgun Continued from Page 26

Last October, Ontario's labour ministry ruled that the .38 calibre revolver is a safety hazard in the workplace, because it is prone to go off accidentally, and is difficult to reload. As a result of the ruling, police in Ontario are getting rid of the .38-calibre, with the nine-millimetre semi-automatic being brought in as the replacement. It is expected that the replacement process will take five years to complete.

According to the *Winnipeg Free Press*, Winnipeg Police Sergeant Barry Chikowski, who also acts as armament officer, said that the nine-millimetre semi-automatic has numerous other advantages compared to the .38-calibre, such as:

- it is less likely to misfire than the .38;
- it is more accurate at medium and long distances than bullets from the .38, which are known to veer off in various directions at any thing outside of short range.

biggest concern. No one has access to any patient's chart."

In 1993 the clinic was set up for group teaching sessions by health professionals. "We have tons of information and people who know how to show support." She is proud of the clinic personnel.

Also in 1993 Birth Control Clinic health services began reaching out to the community. Once a week a clinic nurse spends a few hours in the Boyle Street Coop for open and private consultations.

Last year was the first year for the Group Teaching Projects. And the Birth Control Clinic has a clear statistical picture of demands for their health services.

"The largest group of clients attending the Centre continue to be individuals under the age of 20 years. They make up 54% of the total client base," said the 1993 Annual Report.

"The second largest group attending were the clients between the ages of 20-24 years of age — 31%."

The clinic is able to supply birth control prescriptions at reduced rates for clients who need the financial help and clients unable to afford the supplies are given them free.

For more information about Birth Control Centres in Alberta, phone Alberta Health Inquiry at 427-1400. To contact the Edmonton Board of Health Birth Control Centre, call 425-5850.

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# Hanson Community Resources on the go

by Derek McColl

As Native bands throughout Alberta are challenged with organizing themselves to manage their own child welfare resources, the need for administrative training has become imperative. Chris Hanson and Laura Kemp Hanson of Hanson Community Resources have developed a series of on-site support and training workshops designed to smooth the transition from government to band administration of child welfare programs.

A husband and wife team, the Hansons bring a great deal of experience to bear in their workshops. Chris has worked as a provincial child welfare worker, supervisor and trainer from 1982 to 1990, dealing directly with the communities of Sunchild, O'Chiese and Bighorn. He helped establish the on-reserve Child and Family Services Programs on Sunchild and O'Chiese from their beginning in the mid-eighties, and subsequently became manager of adult services at the Boyle Street Co-op in Edmonton's inner city. Laura has worked as program director and co-ordinator for non-profit boards, as well as an employment counsellor and marketing agent for the Workers' Compensation Board. Her experience in the fields of research, training, staff development and community advocacy bring a structural aspect to the organization that bal-

ances well with Chris' hands-on experience.

One focus of their training program is to facilitate the development of child welfare committees, including the terms of reference of the job description of the committee itself in order to clearly define roles and responsibilities. "Native communities are leading the way by employing child welfare and justice committees. This can ensure input from the grassroots level. We believe in the committee model; it is community development in process," said Chris. On-site training is economical and means that more staff, volunteers, committee members and foster parents can participate in the building of strong communities. Other programs offered include one day workshops on the *Alberta Child Welfare Act*, *Communication and Team Building*, *Conflict/Problem Management* and *Staff-Board Planning Sessions*. Their most recent addition to the program, *The Lessons of Lester Desjarlais*, is based upon the report of Judge B.D. Giesbrecht into the suicide of Lester Norman Desjarlais in Manitoba. Hanson Community Resources uses

Judge Giesbrecht's recommendations as a model to review issues ranging from political interference to community denial. They also provide program evaluation and program development in the area of human resources.

The philosophy of Hanson Community Resources is based upon the notion of preventative medicine. As Alberta Natives gain more control over resources the "long term" becomes more the focus of concern: "Child welfare is some of the toughest work anywhere. We believe we can play a role in working with community-based programs to help them meet their goals." For more information regarding the services of Hanson Community Resources call (403) 468-7294, fax (403) 465-7291 or write to 9615 - 76 Street, Edmonton, AB T6C 2L1.



## Development Corporation Continued from Page 10

served by the Slave Lake area. Settlements include Peavine, Gift Lake and East Prairie.

Bands include Driftpile, Grouard, Loon River, Sawridge, Sucker Creek, Swan River, Whitefish and the Bigstone Cree near Wabasca.

Helping entrepreneurs gain some knowledge and insight into handling financial affairs is a major part of the program and services offered by the business development centre. Loans are also available — but first all other avenues must be explored and the client must be turned down by two other banking or financial institutions.

Business analyst Lionel LaFlamme works within some communities in an effort to aid businesses in their pursuit of financial success.

"We help clients put together a plan for their business. There are many small details that must be handled and clients must have good knowledge of such things as payables, receivables, and proper handling of the paper work required in seeking a loan from the banks," he explains.

LaFlamme goes out into the communities twice each week.

"Native clients feel more comfortable in their own surroundings," he says, "so we travel out at their request and give them the help they may need in order to secure financing."

All loans in excess of \$75 thousand must be obtained outside the development corporation.

In order to have their clients obtain a better understanding of how finance works, Piquette has set up what is called the "loan clinic"

program. He describes the program as a number of "small loans which we handle ourselves. They range from five hundred to three thousand dollars and can be for anything from starting up to making small expansions in an existing business."

These small loans help local entrepreneurs establish a credit base as well as to aid them in understanding the responsibilities attached to borrowing money from financial institutions.

Chief Auger believes that these types of loans are important to the community "because many more people are now looking at starting their own businesses. This is because many of our people who once trapped or fished to provide an income now find themselves unable to continue in a traditional business that is no longer a viable way in which to make a living."

Many people, he added, are turning to arts and crafts and other small business ventures in order to retain a status of self-employment.

"My hat goes off to the old management," says Auger, "because they did what they thought best. It just wasn't quite enough. Now, since the changes have been made things are working in a progressive way. The business development programs offered are quite comprehensive and our people seem to be progressing well and are participating much more than they did in the past."

The total operating budget for all programs and services offered by the LSLBDC is about \$250 thousand annually. Monies set aside by the federal government for loan applications and to be used over the entirety of the program is \$1.55 million.



We salute the entrepreneurial spirit and hard work necessary in all successful business ventures.

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# Protecting Mother Earth

## Environmental issues important to men who toil for gold

by John Copley

... talk of the cold, through the parka's fold  
it stabbed like a driven nail...

"The immortalized words of Robert Service, who penned the famous *Cremation of Sam McGee* have little to do with today's search for gold but only because electricity has a way of warming both body and soul.

Some things, however, do not change.

The vast openness of the barren tundra, the loneliness of a sparsely inhabited land and the long winter days of near constant darkness; still remain for those who venture toward the Pole in their quest for gold. And even today it's considered a tough job.

Approximately 450 men and women, employed by Echo Bay Mines Ltd., venture into the cold and under the ground in an effort to locate and extract one of the planet's most sought after metals.

Unlike the days of yore, however, today's mining operations come under strict government controls and are monitored closely — especially in the areas of safety — both for the employees and the environment we live in.

"We strive to maintain a safe environment and we employ the most up-to-date technology in an order to do so," explains David Hohnstein, the 34-year-old on-site manager of the company's environment program.

"We are forefront in technology and maintain a constant monitoring program," adds Hohnstein, who says the job is made easier because of their ability to obtain a current water analysis in soil and air samples at their on-site laboratory.

The mine site, at Lupin, Northwest Territories, is but a small dot on the largest of maps and lies approximately 450 kilometres north east of Yellowknife or about 280 kilometres south east of Coppermine on the Arctic coast.

The only way in is by air — unless you visit January through March — in which case you'd be able to drive the winter road of which 70 percent is over frozen lakes.

During the week the mine site is a bustling community of about 280 workers of whom 50 or 60 can be found 1000 meters below the surface as they blast, crush and remove the hard rock which will then be taken to the surface and specially treated to ascertain its gold content.

Completing a month's work in two weeks, the employees, who work 12 hour shifts for 14 straight days, are then flown out via Corp Air's Boeing 727 for an equal period of R & R.

The Echo Bay Mines project has been underway since 1982 and Hohnstein, who began in the environmental laboratory two years later, became environmental manager in 1992.

"At one time the environmental manager operated out of Edmonton," says Hohnstein, "but the company felt that even better quality controls could be maintained, so now the technologist works on site."

The laboratory is capable, among other things, of trace level analyses of elements in water in an effort to make certain that safety levels are maintained. Elements being tested for include lead, nickel, zinc, cyanide, copper and arsenic.

The environmental staff is doubled to four during the summer months when the company takes on two students. And then "we prefer to

hire students who are actively interested and are pursuing a career" in the industry, clarified Hohnstein.

Included in government regulations are the specifications set down for monitoring and reporting requirements which include an annual report. The mining operation comes under the jurisdiction of the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

In an isolated area where manoeuvrability is often determined by Mother Nature it is imperative to be prepared for the unexpected. Materials and supplies must be available at all times so the Echo Bay mine project goes a step further to make sure they don't run out of fuel. During the short time the winter road is open to Yellowknife each year many supplies arrive at the site. Included in these deliveries are about 700 truck loads of freight and fuel and 200 loads (or 14 million pounds) of dry goods.

"The company brings in enough fuel to last the entire year," explains Hohnstein, who adds that for many of the drivers "it's like a whole year's worth of miles and time" before the job is finished.

Robert Service's masterpiece may well be a romanticized vision of the north but there's definitely a ring of truth when he says "... talk of the cold...". But the crew of Echo Bay Mines Ltd. can take refuge in the realization that—unlike Sam McGee—they have access to full hangar facilities at the site which can whisk them out to either Yellowknife or Edmonton three days each week. "The work is not for everyone," admits David Hohnstein, "but those who make it come to love it."

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# ENVIRONMENTAL DIGEST

by Dale Stelter

## World's Bird Species Under Increasing Pressure

According to a number of recent reports put out by environmental and conservation groups, the populations of the world's bird species are coming under increasing pressure. For example, according to a British study, almost 70 percent of the species are in decline. Groups that monitor bird populations say that 1,000 species are faced with possible extinction.

There are a wide range of reasons for the population declines, including habitat destruction, poisoning, chemicals such as pesticides, illegal caging as pets, use in gourmet meals, and uncontrolled trade in wild birds.

An issue of *World Watch*, published by the Worldwatch Institute environmental research group, cites a number of studies — including ones by the Centre for Tropical Conservation in the United States, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service — that show declining bird populations in different parts of the world.

According to the *Associated Press*, the *World Watch* article states that "Most bird species are declining because natural balances are being knocked askew by the global expansion of humanity." The article also says that:

- Clearing of forests has led to declines in the populations of 250 bird species that breed in North America and spend the winter to the south;
- In North America, depletion of wetlands has caused most common duck breeds to decline by 30 percent since 1955.

## Canadian Government to Promote Environment Industry

According to the parliamentary secretary to federal Environment Minister Sheila Copps, the federal government is going to promote development of Canada's environmental goods and services industry.

MP Clifford Lincoln recently told the Environmental Services Association of Alberta that the move is part of the government's Canadian Environmental Industry Strategy. Lincoln said that at present, Canada exports 15 to 20 percent of its environmental technology, but imports 40 percent.

He was quoted by the *Edmonton Journal* as saying that "This is one of the fastest growing industries in the world."

Lincoln said that the strategy will put more — 25 percent — of federal research and development spending into environmental technology. Other proposals have also been put forth, such as setting up environmental technology advancement centres across the country. Lincoln said that funding would come from reductions in defence spending.

## Alberta Government to Eliminate Energy Efficiency Branch

The Alberta government will be closing down its Energy Efficiency Branch in early March. The branch was a part of the Energy Department, and the government hopes to privatize some of the wide range of services the branch provided. Those services centred around providing free energy conservation advice to homeowners, businesses, hospitals and schools, and providing free commercial energy audits.

For example, the branch's toll-free hotline has been answering 7,000 inquiries per year, and 3.5 million booklets dealing with conserving energy have been distributed.

There is an 18-month waiting list for the commercial energy audit service. The branch has also provided a program for schools, which provides students with information about the environment and how to conserve energy.

Employees of the Energy Efficiency Branch were concerned about the plans for privatization, saying that advice from industry could be biased.

According to the *Edmonton Journal*, the Energy Efficiency Branch had an annual budget of \$1.4 million, and the closure will put 23 people out of work.



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# BOOK REVIEW

## Brotherhood to Nationhood — George Manuel and the Making of the Modern Indian Movement

by Peter McFarlane  
Published by  
Between The Lines,  
Toronto, Ontario  
Review by  
John Copley

Peter McFarlane's new book, *Brotherhood to Nationhood — George Manuel and the Making of the Modern Indian Movement*, is an astonishingly accurate account of one of the most significant pioneers ever to embark on a mission designed to better establish conditions and rights for Indian people.

This exciting, fast-paced and extremely well documented account of the life and times of George Manuel is hard to set down. Every page is filled with intricate details of not only George Manuel but of the entire Native situation itself.

Manuel was indeed a man of vision — and undoubtedly one of the most prolific warriors to ever carry the torch for Indian rights.

When the baton that represented the future of Canada's Indian people was passed to George Manuel in the early 1950s he could not have known that his run would continue long after his death in 1989.

Known affectionately as

the "War Chief" by some and as "Shogun" by others, George Manuel was years ahead of his time when he first entered the political arena.

He entered the ring in 1955 when he, and

others who valued his opinions, took a stance and refused to pay medical bills (because of a sudden change in policy by the Department of Indian Affairs). It was at this point that Manuel



embarked on a journey from which he would never return. The journey would lead him across the nation and into a constant battle to preserve and gain rights for his people. And Indigenous people everywhere were his people.

From the unpleasantly accurate account of the treatment of Indian people at the hands of the Catholic Oblate to the many selfless and progressive movements carried out by George Manuel, the author has captured the true spirit of his subject.

The 300 page text, published in Toronto by "Between the Lines", includes everything from acknowledgements to special notes and also houses a comprehensive index section.

Although the work is centred around George Manuel, the manuscript gives the reader accurate and interesting insight into the lives of many other well known and respected leaders. Included in this list are people like Harold Cardinal and Andy Paull. Cardinal, the former outspoken President of the Indian Association of Alberta, who, among other things, is remembered for the timely publication of his book, *The Unjust Society*. Paull, the controversial British Columbia chief who was to play a significant role in the development of George Manuel.

"Brotherhood to Nationhood" is a very well researched piece of work by a master penman who obviously identifies with the plight of Canada's Aboriginal people.

In this reviewer's opinion, the price — under \$20 — is a real bargain and a must read book for everyone seeking accurate information regarding Canada's first citizens.

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